

Bernatitus on behalf of a grateful Nation and in celebrating her life of service.

WILBUR ARMSTRONG, BLOOD
DONOR HERO

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 14, 2007

Mrs. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, throughout history, many legendary heroes were known to provide people with a second chance at life. Today, ordinary heroes are giving millions of people a second chance at life. World Blood Donor Day is a united, global celebration for the voluntary, unpaid individuals who are motivated only by the knowledge that they are helping to improve and save lives of people they may never meet. Awareness of these heroes may hopefully inspire a new generation of blood donors. Today's dedication is jointly coordinated by the World Health Organization, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the International Society of Blood Transfusion, and the International Federation of Blood Donor Organizations. This year's date has special meaning to the healthcare world as it is also the birthday of Karl Landsteiner, the Nobel Prize winner who discovered the ABO blood group system.

This year's focus of World Blood Donor Day is the role of safe blood transfusions in preventing maternal deaths. A new initiative, "Safe Blood for Safe Motherhood" will be launched today by the World Health Organization to improve blood use in obstetric care. More than half a million women die every year due to severe bleeding and complications following childbirth; a severe shortage of safe blood is one of the main reasons.

One of my constituents has taken a strong stand for safe blood donations. At the age of 75 and legally blind, Wilbur Armstrong has been donating to the New York Blood Center since 1974. He travels every other week by three public buses from his home, in Hempstead, roughly an hour and a half each way, to the Lake Success donor site. To date, Mr. Armstrong's donations have benefited more than 600 patients in the community, including chemotherapy patients, hemophiliacs and accident victims. Moreover, Mr. Armstrong was recently recognized by CNN as one of its 44 "CNN's Heroes." The CNN television special was featured worldwide in hopes that Mr. Armstrong's selfless act would help motivate others to do the same. Mr. Armstrong embodies what it means to be a quiet hero with the words, "I don't know who these people are that I'm helping, but if I'm helping somebody. And if helping to keep them alive, it makes me feel good."

While some people are busy living their own lives, others like Wilbur Armstrong are busy giving the gift of life. It is these heroes for whom the world gathers to celebrate World Blood Donor Day today. I urge all Americans to take note and become quiet heroes themselves.

RECOGNIZING DAVID NEELEMAN
ON HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS AS
FOUNDER AND CEO OF JETBLUE
AIRWAYS

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 14, 2007

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to take the opportunity to honor a dear friend, David Neeleman, on his distinguished accomplishments as Founder and CEO of JetBlue Airways.

I got to know David shortly after he formed JetBlue in 1999. At the time, airline service to and from Rochester was among the most expensive in the country. My constituents often went out of their way to fly from cheaper airports like Toronto or Montreal. Business travelers advised that economic growth in Rochester was limited by a lack of affordable flights to New York City.

David immediately recognized the potential of the Rochester market for an affordable airline. He and I worked closely to bring JetBlue to Rochester in the summer of 2000, and we have since worked together to expand JetBlue service in upstate New York. In its first year operating out of Rochester, JetBlue saved flyers \$12.5 million. JetBlue's success, in turn, brought additional low-cost carries to Rochester and strengthened the regional economy. JetBlue has become New York State's biggest intrastate air carrier in and the largest domestic airline at New York's JFK International Airport.

David formed JetBlue with the goal of offering passengers low fares, friendly service and a high quality product. His success speaks for itself. Consumer Reports recently named JetBlue the number one airline for customer service. The company has been ranked number one in quality and overall performance of U.S. airlines for 3 consecutive years by the University of Nebraska at Omaha Aviation Institute and W. Frank Barton School of Business at Wichita State University. JetBlue was also rated "Best Domestic Airline" at Conde Nast Traveler's 2006 Readers' Choice Awards, the fifth consecutive year receiving the award.

I was saddened to learn that David decided in May to step down from running the airline every day as CEO to focus on more long-term strategic initiatives for JetBlue as chairman of the board. I credit David for fostering new economic growth in upstate New York, and having the savvy-entrepreneurial skills to build an airline that makes flying fun again. David has assured me that he will remain a very active chairman of the board and that JetBlue's finest days are ahead.

David has been a loyal friend to me and the people of upstate New York. I would like to honor him for his tremendous success as founder and CEO of JetBlue, and I wish him the very best in his tireless pursuit to bring humanity back to airline travel.

HONORING UNITED STATES COAST
GUARD COMMANDER WILLIAM J.
QUIGLEY

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 14, 2007

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise before you today to honor the outstanding career of William J. Quigley, on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Coast Guard.

CDR William J. Quigley is the Prospective Commanding Officer of the Coast Guard Cryptologic Group. He assumed his current duties as the Coast Guard Liaison Officer to the Commander, Naval Security Group, Fort George G. Meade, Maryland in 2004. Immediately prior to this assignment, he served as Chief, Intelligence Resource Management Office, Intelligence Directorate, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington, DC.

Commander Quigley was born in Lowell, MA, and grew up in Hudson, NH. A 1984 graduate of the Coast Guard Academy, Commander Quigley began his career as a deck watch officer aboard the Coast Guard Cutter Alert (WMEC-630) in Cape May, NJ. Commander Quigley's service included numerous afloat assignments and is a qualified Coast Guard Cutterman.

Commander Quigley's shoreside assignments include duty as a Watch Officer at the Coast Guard Intelligence Coordination Center in Washington, DC; the supervisor of the Coast Guard Detachment at the Navy Operational Intelligence Center in Suitland, MD; the Coast Guard Liaison Officer to the Department of State in Washington, DC, and Chief, Operational Analysis and Planning Division, Office of Operations Strategic and Business Planning, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters.

Commander Quigley holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, New London, CT, and a master of science degree in strategic intelligence, earned at the Joint Military Intelligence College, Washington, DC. Individual military awards include the Meritorious Service Medal with Gold Star, Coast Guard Commendation Medal with gold star and operational distinguishing device, the Coast Guard Achievement Medal with gold star and operational distinguishing device, the Commandant's Letter of Commendation, the National Defense Service Medal with bronze star, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal and the Humanitarian Service Medal. Commander Quigley is married to the former Paula May Harris of Hampden, MA. They currently reside in Millersville, MD, with their two sons, Kyle and Connor.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today in honoring CDR William J. Quigley, a man whose deep commitment to the United States and the United States Coast Guard has gone above and beyond the call of duty in service to our great country.